SAVIATION REPORT



North Carolina Department of Transportation • Division of Aviation



1999 North Carolina Aviation Guide







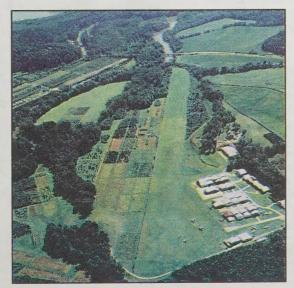




Building for the Future









WELCOME TO NORTH CAROLINA



Dear Friends:

As the birthplace of aviation, our state has a long-standing commitment to an aviation industry that meets the needs of our citizens and visitors. From the mountains to the coast, we continue to improve our airport system to meet the flight challenges of the 21st century.

This year, nearly 18 million passengers will use North Carolina's 14 commercial airports. At a time when our roads are becoming more congested, travelers are turning to the air for their transportation needs. Aviation has become an important part of an integrated transportation vision that will keep people and goods moving across our

We must also remember the importance of a safe airway system. Everyone involved pilots, airlines, airports, mechanics, governments and passengers — must keep safety as the top priority. The North Carolina Department of Transportation's long-range goal is to provide a safe and economical airway system to meet the needs of all users.



Governor James B. Hunt Jr.

As we approach the centennial of flight, let's continue working together to keep North Carolina a leader in aviation.

My warmest personal regards,

Sincerely.

James B. Hunt Jr.

Dear Friends:

As a native of Duplin County, it is a privilege to return home to serve the people of this great state as aviation director for the North Carolina Department of Transportation.

Under the leadership of Transportation Secretary E. Norris Tolson, North Carolina continues to be on the forefront of multi-modal transportation and customer service. Our aviation programs are designed to serve local governments, the military, and the citizens of North Carolina — enhancing industry and commerce statewide. As we to enter the new millennium, aviation safety and airport development will be our top

My vision is to transform the Division of Aviation into a program that will be a role model for all state agencies to follow. We will reach this goal through initiative, dedication and foresight. We face many challenges but we will tackle those with the same determination and fortitude that the Wright brothers demonstrated in their quest to solve the problems of powered flight.



William H. Williams Jr.

It was in this state that modern flight became a reality, and it is our duty and honor to continue North Carolina's role as a leader and innovator in aviation.

Sincerely

Williams H. Williams Jr. Director of Aviation

N.C. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Secretary of Transportation E. Norris Tolson

Deputy Secretary for Transit, Rail and Aviation David D. King

NCDOT DIVISION OF AVIATION

MAIN OFFICE

(919) 571-4904

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State Airport Maintenance Engineer Bobby Walston, P.E.

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W. J. McLamb M. W. Mullinix, Sr. Gene A. Miller Joe R. Randall Doreen K. Richter William N. Schultz, Jr. Russell G. Walker

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N.C. TRAVEL AND TOURISM DIVISION

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ON THE COVER



- 1. Franklin Co., Louisburg
- 2. Dare Co., Manteo
- 3. Concord Regional
- 4. Ashe Co., Jefferson
- 5. Brunswick Co., Southport
- 6. Raleigh-Durham Int'l
- 7. Shiflett Field, Marion
- 8. Kinston Regional

AVIATION DEVELOPMENT

Paving the way for the new millennium



The Davidson County Airport in Lexington was completely rebuilt last year. Realigning the runway to fit the local terrain allowed it to be lengthened from 3,295 feet to 5,000 feet. A new terminal building and hangars will be constructed this year. Virtually nothing of the old airport remains. Another new airport, in Sanford, is scheduled to open in May 1999.

1998 was a year of change and continued growth for the Division of Aviation as we gained a new director, expanded the outreach of our aviation safety programs and began a new emphasis on the maintenance of the airport infrastructure.

William H. "Bill" Williams Jr., joined the division after a 28-year career with the Federal Aviation Administration. A native of southeastern North Carolina, Williams worked in many aspects of the FAA, both in Washington and in the field. His last position was as the senior manager of the FAA's Flight Inspection and Procedures Division, the unit which both develops instrument approaches and flight checks electronic navaids. Williams brings both a new perspective and new enthusiasm to the division which will be seen in coming months as new programs are explored and implemented.

A sign of this interest in new programs is the series of statewide listening sessions which have been planned for March in six locations across North Carolina. While the final schedule has not yet been established, these meetings will allow aviation system

users to provide input to the Department of Transportation about their views on our development and operations programs. We want to know what you think of the programs we have and what changes might be appropriate to take us into the 21st Century.

Among the changes we are considering include the development of an air service program to assist North Carolina communities get improved airline service. We also are looking at the implementation of an airport safety program including annual safety inspections and special funding to help eliminate significant safety problems. In the operational safety area are proposals for programs targeting specific segments of the industry such as new pilots, corporate pilots and flight instructors. Finally, we plan to emphasize the development of an airport system able to take advantage of GPS for enhanced instrument approach capabilities to both large and small airports.

In the area of aviation safety, the division expanded its safety staff to two full time positions, plus one safety intern and increased the number of local and regional safety seminars being offered. As usual,

Wings Weekends in Greensboro and Goldsboro were very well attended and the annual Coastal Air Tour drew a large and enthusiastic number of participants.

Our airport development programs provided almost \$17 million in state aid to airports and State Block Grant funds to our public airport system. In addition, direct federal assistance to airline service airports under the Airport Improvement Program added more than \$25 million in additional federal funds. As a result, about two-thirds of our public airports received some form of federal and/or state grants for airport development projects.

One of our new development programs got under way in earnest in 1998 as our Safety Enhancement and Preservation Program undertook projects at a number of airports. On the minor end of the scale were crack sealing and pavement marking projects at about 25 airports, while major projects were undertaken at Northeast Regional Airport in Edenton and Tri-County Airport in Ahoskie where runway extensions and resurfacing projects were carried out.

The year also saw the completion and commissioning of the initial phase of our Automated Weather Observation System (AWOS) program to bring better weather reporting capabilities to smaller airports statewide. The first phase includes 12 new AWOS stations stretching from Andrews to Edenton, all of which are tied into the National Weather Service system through

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First in Flight state is First in Hospitality

O rville and Wilbur Wright obviously knew a good place for flying when they saw one, and as we approach the 100th anniversary of that first powered flight, pilots of the '90s are always discovering great destinations in North Carolina that the entire family can enjoy.

Start your own personal air tour of North Carolina at the place where it all began. The First Flight Airport allows you land beside the Wright Brothers National Memorial and walk to the memorial and the nearby museum. If you need a car, fuel or other services, nearby Dare County Regional Airport in Manteo has all the services you expect from a full-service FBO, plus some tips on great places to eat and see along the Outer Banks.

South of the birthplace of flight, right along the Carolina coast, you can land at Wilmington International Airport and visit some of the area's historic sites, including the famous USS North Carolina Battleship Memorial. A few of the state's most popular beaches are just a short drive from the Wilmington Airport.

Another popular beach-stop airport along the coast is the Michael J. Smith Field in Beaufort, right beside Morehead City. The Brunswick County Airport in Southport is also a great coastal destination airport.

Ocracoke, a quaint sleepy fishing village, is a perfect flying destination. Accessible only by ferry or airplane, the tiny Outer Banks island is served by a well-maintained general aviation airport. You're just a few feet away from a beautiful beach or a short walk from the village.

In the heart of the state lies the state capital of Raleigh with several museums and attractions, all within a short drive of the Raleigh-Durham International Airport.

If the passengers in your manifest like life a little on the wild side, then land at Asheboro Municipal Airport and head for one of the largest natural habitat animal collections in the country at the North Carolina Zoo. The PFAC Flying Museum is located right on the Asheboro Municipal Airport.

Are beautiful mountain scenes more your style? Then western North Carolina, home of the Blue Ridge Mountains, will quickly become one of your all-time favorite vacation destinations. A spectacular flight is to follow the Blue Ridge Parkway as it winds its way through the Appalachian Mountains.

Airports in Hendersonville, Asheville, Boone and Andrews-Murphy are just a few fields ready and equipped to welcome general aviation aircraft into the western part of the state. Hendersonville is home to the Western North Carolina Aviation Museum. Several famous attractions await you in the mountains, including the popular Biltmore Estate in Asheville, Grandfather Mountain in Linville and Tweetsie Railroad between Boone and Blowing Rock.

If the young and young-at-heart on board are into an even more exciting ride than your flight, then land at Charlotte's Douglas International Airport or nearby Concord Regional Airport and take the short drive to Carowinds Theme Park or visit the Carolinas Aviation Museum located on the Charlotte International Airport property.

With more than 100 public-use airports in the state, all of North Carolina is easily accessible by air and every FBO stands ready to tell you of popular local attractions, in addition to famous places to eat near the field. Some popular restaurants are located right at the airport, such as the popular Fran's Front Porch Restaurant at Causey Airport in Liberty or the 57A Cafe at the Rutherford County Airport in Rutherfordton.

The next time you're looking for a destination that the whole family will love, pull out your flight guide and pick a North Carolina airport. You'll quickly discover that the First In Flight state is First In Hospitality, too.

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AVIATION DEVELOPMENT (cont'd)

In 1998, public airports in North Carolina received more than \$42 million in state and federal funds for capital improvements.

Continued from page 3

satellite uplinks. When funding permits hopefully later this year - a second phase will add another dozen stations at general aviation airports. Combined with those installed by the FAA, National Weather Service, and local airports, this means most of North Carolina will have good weather reporting capability.

In the area of new airports, one has been completed while the other is nearing completion. The new runway at Davidson County Airport in Lexington opened in early December 1998. The airport now features 5,000x100-foot asphalt runway, full length parallel taxiway, and two paved parking aprons. Final completion of the terminal complex including hangars and a terminal building is expected by mid-1999. In Sanford, work continues on the new Sanford-Lee County airport which will have a 6,500-foot-long runway and full parallel taxiway. This airport will replace the existing inadequate airport and is planned to open in the spring in time for the U.S. Open golf tournament to be held in Pinehurst in June.

Significant airport development projects completed 1998 included the following:

Ahoskie - Tri-County Airport: Runway extension from 3,950 feet to 4,500 feet and resurfacing of the existing runway. Trees in approach paths were also removed.

Asheboro Municipal: Runway extension from 4,500 feet to 5,000 feet.

Currituck County: Comprehensive concrete joint sealing, expansion of the general aviation apron.

Edenton - Northeast Regional: Extension of runway 1-19 from 5,350 feet

Kenansville - Duplin County: Extension of runway from 4,800 feet to 6,000 feet.

Lexington - Davidson County: Replacement of existing 3,300-foot runway with new 5,000-foot runway and full paral-

Lincolnton - Lincoln County: Extension of runway from 4,800 feet to

Louisburg – Franklin County: Installation of ILS to runway 4.

Lumberton Municipal: Installation of ILS to runway 5

Manteo - Dare County Regional: Extension of runway from 3,850 feet to 4,300 feet. Rehabilitation of existing run-

Associated City

Telephone Number

Monroe Municipal: Construction of new general aviation terminal building.

Morganton-Lenoir: Began construction of a runway extension from 4,500 feet to 5,500 feet.

North Wilkesboro - Wilkes County: Installation of ILS and approach lights for runway 1.

Roxboro - Person County: Extension of runway from 5,000 feet to 5,700 feet. Installation of ILS to runway 6.

Salisbury - Rowan County: Relocation of parallel taxiway to meet FAA

Smithfield - Johnston County: Installation of ILS and approach lights for

Southern Pines - Moore County: Installation of ILS to runway 5.

Williamston - Martin County: Reconstruction of 5,000-foot runway.

The Division of Aviation urges all aviation system users to immediately report airport concerns to their local airport operator. This would include both significant safety deficiencies and enhancement projects of a longer term nature. If you are unable to do so or otherwise want state assistance, please let us know by calling the Division of Aviation at 919-571-4904.

IGX Airport Identifier

- Latitude

Longitude

Hours of Operation

AWOS STATIONS (919) 345-2967 Ahoskie - Tri-County Albemarle - Stanley County 128.175 MHz (704) 986-2097 VUJ 119.675 MHz (828) 321-1049 6A3 Andrews - Murphy W44 Asheboro - Asheboro Municipal 119.275 MHz (336) 626-7933 JQF Concord - Concord Regional 133.675 MHz (704) 785-2145 EDE Edenton - Northeastern Regional 121.125 MHz (252) 482-0757 37W Erwin - Harnett County 119.025 MHz (910) 814-3946 PGV Greenville - Pitt-Greenville 128.425 MHz (252) 758-6485 OAJ Jacksonville - Albert J. Ellis 124.475 MHz (910) 324-5233 NC67 Jefferson - Ashe County 120.675 MHz (336) 982-5555 120.675 MHz (910) 296-9688 DPL Kenansville - Duplin County IPJ Lincolnton - Lincoln County 119.675 MHz (704) 735-6954 Louisburg - Franklin County 2N9 118.325 MHz (919) 497-0810 MQI Manteo - Dare County Reg. 128.275 MHz (252) 473-2826 MRN 124.175 MHZ (828) 757-0788 Morganton - Morganton-Lenoir MWK Mount Airy - Mount Airy-Surry County 121.125 MHZ (336) 789-2299 North Wilkesboro - Wilkes County 126.625 MHz (336) 696-3788 UKF TDF Roxboro - Person County 126.725 MHz (336) 364-1651 FQD Rutherfordton - Rutherford County 118.275 MHz (828) 287-6498 RUQ[†] Salisbury - Rowan County 111.0 MHz (704) 637-6197 JNX Smithfield - Johnston County 120.225 MHZ (919) 934-3851 SOP Southern Pines - Moore County 127.575 MHz (910) 692-4287 OCW Washington - Warren Field 120.175 MHz (252) 975-6133 **ASOS STATIONS** AVL Asheville - Asheville Regional 120.1 MHz (828) 681-0131 MRH* Beaufort - Michael J. Smith Field 135.375 MHz (252) 728-2055 BUY Burlington - Alamance Regional 135.325 MHz (336) 570-9813 IGX* Chapel Hill - Horace Williams 134.575 MHz (919) 942-2538 CLT Charlotte - Charlotte/Douglas Int'l 121.15 MHz (704) 359-0235 **ECG** Elizabeth City - Elizabeth City Mun. 118.525 MHz (252) 338-4750 FAY Fayetteville - Fayetteville Reg 121.25 MHz (910) 484-1546 AKH* Gastonia - Gastonia Municipal 135.725 MHz (704) 868-9034 GSO Greensboro - Piedmont Triad Int'l 128.55 MHz (336) 393-0168 HSE Hatteras - Billy Mitchell 118.375 MHz (252) 995-3646 Hickory - Hickory Regional (828) 322-2996 HKY 118.325 MHz LBT Lumberton - Lumberton Municipal 134.775 MHz (910) 671-1906 MEB Maxton - Laurinburg-Maxton 134.125 MHz (910) 844-5338 EQY Monroe - Monroe Municipal 135.775 MHz (704) 283-5185 New Bern - Craven County Reg. 118.525 MHz **EWN** (252) 514-2086 RDU Raleigh - Raleigh-Durham Int'l 123.8 MHz (919) 840-0816 Roanoke Rapids - Halifax County 134.425 MHz RZZ (252) 537-7971 RWI* Rocky Mount - Rocky Mount-Wilson 118.875 MHz (252) 446-0732 Wilmington - New Hanover Int'l ILM 121.1 MHz (910) 343-9489 Winston-Salem - Smith Reynolds 121.3 MHz (336) 661-3096 *As of 1/25/99, these stations have been installed and now operate in test mode, but are not yet offi-

cially commissioned. †Frequency change expected first quarter of 1999.

Unicom 123.0 RDU App 128.3 RDU RCO 126.5 Charlotte Fuel Available Local Frequencies Sectional Indicates Displaced Threshold Note: On airports with Rotating Remarks: Airport closed to jetpowered aircraft, aircraft over 12,500 lbs., glidultralights. ELEV. 512' APAP = A system of panels, which may or may not be lighted, used for alignment of approach path HIRL = High intensity runway lights LIRL = Low intensity runway lights
MIRL = Medium intensity runway lights PCL = Pilot controlled lighting
REIL = Runway end identifier lights TRCV = Tri-color visual approach slope indicator, normally a single light unit projecting three colors. TRIL = TRCV on left side of runway Precision approach path indicator Visual approach slope indicator NOTE: THESE DIAGRAMS NOT INTENDED FOR AERONAUTICAL PURPOSES. INFORMATION ON THESE DIAGRAMS IS CURRENT AS OF JAN. 1, 1998 CONSULT APPROPRIATE NOTAMS, CHARTS AND FLIGHT INFORMATION PUBLICATIONS FOR CURRENT INFORMATION AND SUPPLEMENTAL DATA.

North Carolina Airport Guide Legend

Lat 35°56.1'N

0900 - 1800

Chapel Hill

HORACE WILLIAMS

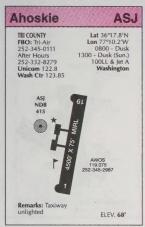
Airport 919-962-1337

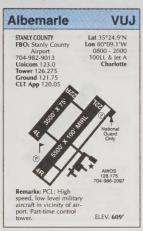
FBO: Horace Williams

1999

North Carolina Airport Guide

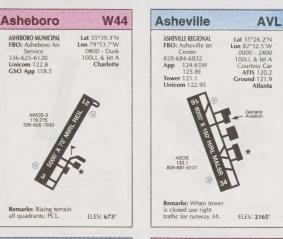
NOTE: THESE DIAGRAMS ARE NOT INTENDED FOR USE IN NAVIGATION. CONSULT APPROPRIATE NOTAMS, CHARTS AND FLIGHT INFORMATION PUBLICATIONS FOR CURRENT INFORMATION AND SUPPLEMENTAL DATA









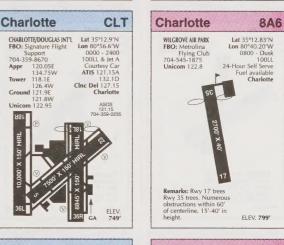


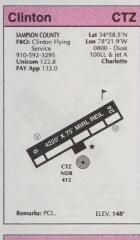


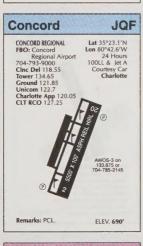
































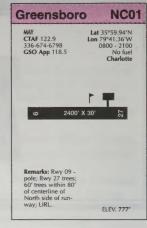












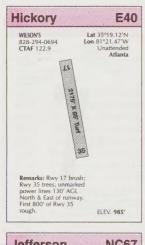








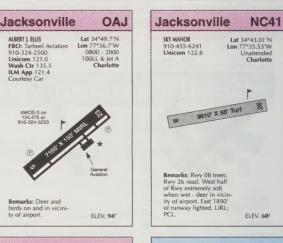




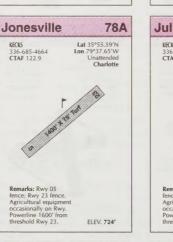


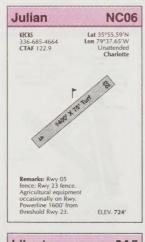




















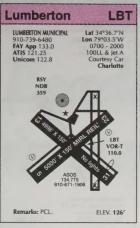








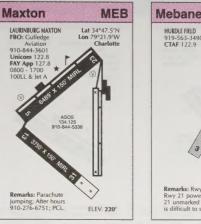
MWK





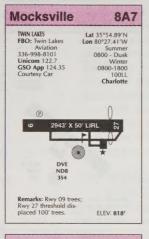






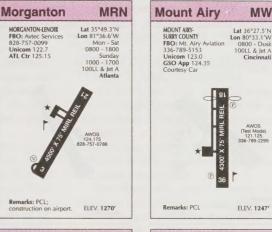










































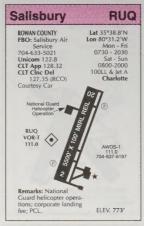




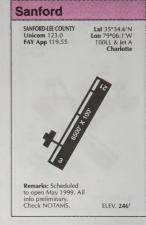




















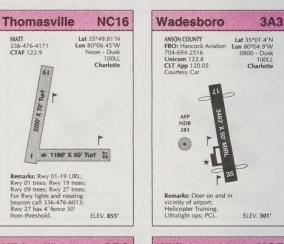






















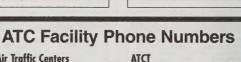






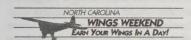






FAA Air Traffic Centers ATCT Washington Center......703-771-3470 Asheville 704-684-0421 Jacksonville Center904-549-1501 Charlotte. .704-359-1000 Atlanta Center770-210-7622 .704-721-4285 Concord Fayetteville. .910-484-8012 Military Bases .336-668-0454 Greensboro. MCAS Cherry Point....919-466-2646 Hickory.. .828-323-8848 Seymour Johnson AFB ..919-736-5560 Kinston. .919-544-4844 Pope AFB... ..910-394-4546 Raleigh.... .919-840-0071 Shaw AFB .803-668-2357 Wilmington. .910-815-4504 NAS Oceana. ..757-433-2377 Winston-Salem336-767-8979

Leading the Nation in Aviation Safety



The Spring Wings
Weekend, held each
April in Greensboro,
is the largest of its
kind in the country.
Last year, the twoday event drew more
than 400 pilots.

The North Carolina Department of Transportation's Division of Aviation stands high in promoting aviation safety. The aviation safety staff works closely with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to provide pilot and aviation maintenance seminars. This is evident by the thousands of pilots and aviation technicians who attend these informative seminars each year.

1999 should be an exciting and busy year for the Division of Aviation as we bring back some of our favorite programs and add exciting new events.

NC WINGS

NCDOT Division of Aviation's very popular Wings Weekend is scheduled to be held in Greensboro on April 24-25. This program received great reviews last year from the FAA's *Aviation News* magazine.

The FAA's Pilot Proficiency Program, also known as the Wings Program, is a combination of pilot flight refresher training and safety seminars for those with recreational licenses and higher. Student pilots are encourage to attend the seminars although they can not fly at Wings Weekends. Look for new aviation exhibitors and a pilot appreciation banquet with a featured guest speaker at this year's Wings Weekends.

To qualify for the Wings Program, pilots must attend an approved aviation safety seminar and receive three hours of flight instruction. The Wings Weekend allows pilots to meet those qualifications in a one day period. Pilots who complete the program receive a special Wings lapel pin and a certificate. Successful completion of the program also counts in lieu of a biennial flight review. Some insurance companies also offer discounts to pilots who have completed a phase of the Wings Program.

The N.C. Wings Weekend in Greensboro will be held at the T.H. Davis-Guilford Technical Community College Aviation Facility at Piedmont-Triad International Airport. The fall Wings Weekend is planned for October 16-17, 1999, at the Goldsboro-Wayne Municipal Airport.

OPERATION RAINCHECK

Pilots who have trepidations about flying into towered airports miss out on the full flexibility and utility of aviation. Operation Rainchecks are hosted by air traffic control facilities to give pilots the opportunity to meet with controllers. The goal is to have pilots and controllers meet so they can better understand each other's role in the system.

This is accomplished through special safety seminars and ATC facility tours.

Check your mailbox for informational flyers notifying you of upcoming Operation Raincheck programs at nearby towered airports.

AVIATION MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN SEMINARS

NCDOT, the FAA and the aviation industry regularly team up to provide specialized seminars for Aviation Maintenance Technicians and AMTs with Inspection Authorization. These programs allow aircraft mechanics to keep up with the latest trends in aviation maintenance.

For those who need to renew their Inspection Authorization, special seminars are held twice a year over a two-day period. The first will be held on May 14-15 in Greensboro and the second will be held on November 12-13 in the eastern part of the state. An exact location will be determined later

Attendance at one of the nightly or twoday seminars counts toward meeting the requirements for the AMT Awards Program and the chance to win special prizes.

COASTAL AIR TOUR

The event that the entire family can enjoy is the annual North Carolina Coastal Air Tour. Last year's Air Tour was lengthened to four days which allowed participants to spend more time in Manteo or relax at the beach. Also, several new events were added to the program. Details for this year's tour are still being finalized but one exiting event of the Air Tour will be the opportunity to attend the Wilmington Airshow as special guests to the show's activities. Don't miss this tour as there will be a lot of new and exciting activities.

EVENING SAFETY SEMINARS

While our featured programs such as the Wings Weekends and the Coastal Air Tour are popular, it is difficult for all pilots to commit to an entire weekend for these events. Therefore, the NCDOT Division of Aviation safety staff and FAA Aviation Safety Program Managers regularly tour the state to present evening safety seminars.

These programs offer a great way to stay abreast on the latest FAA regulations, flight techniques and safety information. These seminars only last a few hours and may be as close as your nearest airport.

The entire NCDOT Division of Aviation staff is dedicated to keeping North Carlina "First in Flight, First in Safety." To register or receive more information about these safety programs, or to schedule one at your airport, call the NCDOT Division of Aviation at 919-840-0112.

We hope to see you out there. Meanwhile, fly safe!

NC Aviation Foundation to Assist Safety Programs

Participation in the aviation safety programs produced by the NCDOT Division of Aviation and the FAA continues to grow. Each year, more pilots are added to the ranks of those who attend the popular North Carolina Wings Weekends and the nightly seminars held at various locations around the state. This growth means more of the state's pilots are taking safety issues seriously and it also means more resources are necessary to handle these additional pilots and to continue to encourage other pilots to attend.

In response to this growth, several interested pilots gathered for a meeting in Raleigh last year with a specific goal: to help the aviation safety program and to promote the value of general aviation in the state. Out of that meeting, the non-profit North Carolina Aviation Foundation (NCAF) was formed. Within a few months, the foundation elected a board of directors and officers to run the new organization.

As NCAF reaches its first year of operation, it has already helped the safety program in several ways. During the spring N.C. Wings Weekend in Greensboro, NCAF paid for lunch and dinner for the volunteer flight instructors who donated their time to fly with pilots participating in the FAA's Pilot Proficiency Program. The large "Welcome to the North Carolina Wings Weekend" banner seen at the event also is a gift of the foundation.

NCAF repeated its dinner and lunch contribution for volunteer CFIs during the fall Wings Weekend held at Goldsboro-Wayne Airport. In January, NCAF paid for a meeting room and for refreshments at the Holiday Inn in Salisbury where a CFI Workshop was held.

The foundation has already been a valuable partner to the state's aviation safety program and according to NCAF president Mark Grady, this is just the beginning.

"It's our goal to not only continue to provide services being offered at the existing safety events, but to create a few events of our own. We are discussing producing a combination VFR/IFR strategy weekend session this year, while offering a Pinch Hitter course for spouses and flying friends during the same event. We are also working on encouraging additional pilot participation in all safety events by offering some big ticket door prizes in the future," Grady said.

In the area of education, NCAF is just beginning to create material that will be of use in spreading the word of the value of general aviation to the state. This year, the news media will be informed that NCAF is a resource for obtaining accurate information on aviation issues. In addition, the foundation is working on creating educational material for distribution to the schools on aviation's contributions to North Carolina.

The North Carolina Aviation Foundation is operated by an all-volunteer board of directors and officers. It is dependent on gifts to the foundation by anyone interested in aviation safety and in promoting general aviation. The current officers are Mark Grady, president; Cecil Edgerton, vice-president and Norm Karr, secretary-treasurer.

To make a tax-deductible contribution or for more information, write the North Carolina Aviation Foundation, P.O. Box 25673, Raleigh, NC 27611-5673, call 800-910-7409 or visit their web site at www.ncaviation.org. You can also e-mail the foundation at info@ncaviation.org.

Hangar Talk With Bill Williams



William H. Williams Jr.

When the search began for a new Aviation Director in late 1997, North Carolina was looking for someone with a clear vision of what the future of aviation holds in store and the ability to make sure that vision becomes reality.

The man tasked with this mission is William H. Williams Jr., a North Carolinanative who spent the past 28 years with the Federal Aviation Administration, managing and guiding some of the agency's largest and most technologically-advanced divisions.

Aviation Report sat down with the new director to discuss the future of aviation in North Carolina and the role the state must play to maintain its position as one of the premiere state aviation agencies in the country. The following conversation has been edited for clarity and length:

Aviation Report: After 28 years with the Federal Aviation Administration and a tour with the Air Force before that, you've returned home to North Carolina. This must be an exciting time for you.

Bill Williams: Yes, I'm very excited and as a matter of fact I don't think I've been happier in a work situation before. The people here are wonderful and the staff has been great so the transition has been easy for me. I've enjoyed this very much.

AR: You grew up in Duplin County, in the southeastern part of North Carolina. When and how did you become interested in airplanes and aviation?

BW: I grew up on a tobacco farm so my first contact with aircraft was to watch cropdusters. I just said that's what I wanted to do. After high school I initially went to college long enough to get into the Air Force so I could be around airplanes and I have been around them ever since.

AR: Since you became the new aviation director in September 1998, what have your impressions been so far?

BW: The thing that I have absolutely been impressed with and happy with is that in most communities I visit, local leaders all support the airport with the different interests - industry, government and airport users — working together as a team. As a result, we have some class airports around the state. I want to applaud not only the division but also the counties and the municipalities and the boards out there. They have really turned out great airports like no state I have seen. Usually you have a few airports, but here it's one airport after another. And the people are very interested and excited about those airports. So I just want to say, "Keep that going," because that's what is making it work — the team work. Every time I see that, it's very pleasing because usually that's not what you see.

AR: North Carolina's Aviation Division is recognized as one of the best state aviation agencies in the country. What is your vision of the aviation program as we get ready to enter into the next century?

BW: Well, I see the division continuing to enjoy an outstanding reputation and moving further into a leadership role in terms of leading the progress of aviation into the next millennium. I see the state having a progressive program that would be on the leading edge of technology, implementing those various technologies and enhancing those that are already in place.

We are at a very crucial point right now. We need to bring the airport development programs and pilot education programs closer together so what we do enhances the community. We don't want to have a fancy airport with people that don't appreciate, don't understand or can't use.

AR: You mention cutting edge technology. Can you give us some examples?

BW: GPS procedures, primarily. Not just the approach procedures themselves, but maybe some routing using GPS in areas where we don't have good coverage from ground-based systems. Then as new precision GPS comes along, we want to be a front runner in that.

The advantage, obviously, is that a ground-based systems costs around \$1 million, so you're talking a whole lot of money. With GPS and WAAS (Wide Area Augmentation System), you're not talking about a whole lot of money. Therefore, the funding that we get we can do more with and that's what I plan to focus on over the next year or two: Looking for ways to make the money we get go further. Over the next few months you will hear about some initiatives that will do that.

Fortunately, we're going to have a tremendous opportunity to implement this new technology as we prepare for the First Flight Centennial celebration in 2003. In the eastern part of the state, there's inadequate radar and ground-based navaid coverage. So as a result, we have to come up with some innovative way of providing that service and have it not be very expensive. And we're looking for a long return. Whatever it is we do, we want it to be something we can keep it in place after the centennial.

AR: Are there any immediate aviation issues facing the state?

BW: Yes, the immediate issue is that we complete those projects that are already in progress in light of the funding issues that we have.

Also, we need to aggressively communicate to all parties, particularly our state leaders in the legislature, members of congress and the communities, how important airports are, the economic impact that they bring and the access they provide to a community with the rest of the world. People

Biography: William H. Williams Jr.

n September 28, 1998, William H. Williams Jr. became the third director of the North Carolina Department of Transportation's Division of Aviation. He now oversee an agency which provides funding and planning assistance to the state's public airports, conducts safety seminars and educational programs and operates NCDOT's aircraft. The division also is responsible for aerial photography for the Division of Highways.

For Williams, the new posting means a return to his home state. He grew up in Duplin County before joining the Air Force after high school. This was followed by an illustrious 28-year career with the Federal Aviation Administration. He most recently was program director of aviation system standards for the FAA, where he oversaw an organization providing in-flight evaluation services for more than 7,000 airports in the U.S. and 10,000 airports in 46 foreign countries.

"We are committed to developing a multi-modal transportation system that moves citizens and products safely across our state," said North Carolina Transportation Secretary E. Norris Tolson. "Aviation is an important component of that system, and Bill has the unique experience to help guide the aviation division into the next century." Before heading the Aviation System Standards office, he was manager of the FAA's Western-Pacific Region Flight Standards Division. He also has held major positions with the FAA's Northwest Mountain, New England, and Western-Pacific Regions

A pilot with more than 4,500 hours, he holds an Airline Transport Pilot certificate, is rated in single- and multiengine airplanes, gliders, and is qualified as a flight instructor in each category.

Williams holds a bachelor's degree in aerospace science from Metropolitan State College in Denver and a master's degree in public administration from the University of Virginia.

He has received numerous awards for achievement in his FAA career, most recently a presidential citation as recipient of the Senior Executive Service Presidential Rank Award, the Department of Transportation's Silver Medal for Meritorious Achievement, and the 1993 Award for Excellence in Equal Employment Opportunities. He also received the 1993 C. Alfred Anderson Award by the National Black Coalition of Federal Aviation Employees, the 1993 Leadership Award from Oklahoma State University, and the only Leadership Award for Excellence ever given by the employees of the Office of Aviation System Standards.

MEET THE NEW DIRECTOR OF AVIATION (cont'd)

need to understand and I want to work with them to have them better appreciate the value of their airport.

We also want areas to have airports that can accommodate corporate traffic. We spend a lot of money on general aviation airports and that's fine, but when a community is recruiting industry for economic development purposes, those business leaders need to be able to get in and out of these airports and access is very important to them. So when we are working with communities, we want them to understand that we are interested in helping them develop that kind of philosophy.

AR: There is a great disparity between the different state aviation programs in the region. What puts the North Carolina Aviation Division over top?

BW: I think the safety program. Other states do not have an emphasis in that area. Obviously, it's the most visible part of what we do but you have to have a quality program and the folks that we have are very

program. We have plans right now to expand those activities and you're going to see more of those programs beginning this year. We are a model in that regard and we're going to continue to play that role. The pilots that I have met in the state are very excited about the program, they want more of those kinds of things, they think it makes a difference and we want to help them.

AR: North Carolina was one of the first states to participate in the State Block Grant Program. How important is this funding initiative to the state?

BW: The flexibility the program gives us is very important. I would like to see more states involved in it for their own benefit. For us, there's flexibility, there's an expediency factor involved and also the whole activity of administering the grants is simplified. So I like it.

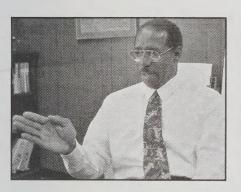
AR: North Carolina has a large military presence. How do you balance their interests with those of the aviation community?

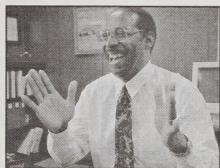
out to meet with people, you have to be conscious of the interests of the state and what any contacts may be able to bring to the state. So yes, I see that as my role. We want to promote the economic well-being of the state.

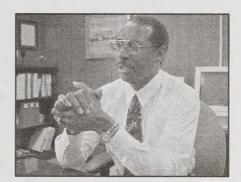
We have already identified 50 to 60 key individuals around the world that I would like to invite to North Carolina and have visit our division and I'm thinking of ways of doing that. I plan to have them involved in some way in the Centennial Celebration, as well. These are people who are very senior political officials. They form opinions and make statements and make things happen. I currently chair a committee that's comprised of 14 countries with individuals from industry, government and academia and hope to continue that activity, because there is a benefit to the state.

AR: What can the state's aviation community expect from the division?

BW: We're going to be out and about meeting with aviation users. We're going to set up







"We want to be the model everybody looks to, not only for aviation, but in state government. We want to be seen as a model division. That's our vision and that's where we're headed."

energized and they like it and the community respond and appreciates it. So I think that's what put us over the top. It's the program and the people that are in it, but also the folks that come who think it's worthwhile. The pilots who come from Virginia, Georgia and Tennessee, they say, "I wish we did something like that." And I say, "Well, until you do, we'll continue to offer the programs and you keep coming back to see us."

AR: As you just mentioned, North Carolina has taken a leadership role in aviation safety. The Wings Weekend held each April in Greensboro is the largest in the country. Do you see this role expanding?

BW: We will certainly continue the safety

BW: For a long time the military has played a big role in the state, but as the business community is growing there has been an encroachment into what the military has perceived to be its airspace or its areas. One of the challenges we have is to make sure those interests coexist. We plan to have them deeply involved with the centennial planning and obviously we'll be using airspace that belongs to the military. We're already talking with military leaders in the state to talk about these issue. That is a priority.

AR: You have served on a number of international committees. Do you see the division play a larger international role?

BW: Anytime I, or someone like me, goes

a series of meetings around the state to talk with pilots and hear what they have to say so that as we develop a strategic plan, we incorporate their thoughts. Secondly, we are going to expand our safety programs. Finally, I'd like to see more people involved in the safety program.

I realize there are some who are threatened by technology, threatened by airspace issues, threatened by towered airports. We need to hear from those users because as we emerge technologically we need to balance their needs as well.

We want to be the model everybody looks to, not only for aviation, but in state government. We want to be seen as a model division. That's our vision and that's where we're headed.



The NCDOT Division of Aviation has begun a major effort to support the activities planned for the 100th anniversary of powered flight in 2003 at Kitty Hawk, led by the First Flight Centennial.

This will truly be the premier aviation event of the century and it will be here in North Carolina. The year of 2003 will be a continuous celebration of flight, particularly along the coast, with numerous seminars, workshops, races, and fly-ins for both aviation in general and specific elements in particular. All of this will culminate in the week leading up to December 17, 2003 with special events expected to draw a huge number of people to Dare County and the Wright Brothers National Memorial.

For more information about the First Flight Centennial Celebration, call 919-715-0209 or visit their web site at www.firstflight.org.

1999 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL
6 - Winston-Salem Winter Survival Safety Seminar 6-9 pm Traid Air 9 - Salisbury CFI Workshop, 8 am-5 pm 11 - Rocky Mount AMT Seminar, 6-9 pm 12 - Elizabeth City AMT Seminar, 6-9 pm 13 - New Bern AMT Seminar, 6-9 pm 19 - Greensboro ATC & FAA Safety Seminar, 6-9 pm 21 - Raleigh ATC & FAA Safety Seminar, 6-9 pm 28 - Burlington AMT Seminar, 6-9 pm 30 - Fayetteville Operation Raincheck, 8 am-1 pm; 1-6 pm	4 - Greensboro AMT Seminar, 6-9 pm 6-7 - Raleigh Operation Raincheck, 8 am-5 pm 9 - Ashosike Pilot Safety Seminar, 6-9 pm 11 - Raleigh AMT Seminar, 6-9 pm 18 - Winston-Salem AMT Seminar, 6-9 pm 20 - Carthage AMT Seminar, 6-9 pm AOPA Safety Seminars, 7-9 pm 22 - Raleigh 23 - Greensboro 24 - Charlotte	6-7 - Charlotte Operation Raincheck, 8 am-5 pm 9 - Greensboro AMT Seminar, 6-9 pm 17 - Raleigh Safety Counselor Meeting, 6-9 pm 23 - Wilmington AMT Seminar, 6-9 pm 24 - New Bern AMT Seminar, 6-9 pm 24 - Greensboro Safety Counselor Meeting, 6-9 pm 25 - Elizabeth City AMT Seminar, 6-9 pm Safety Seminars, 6:30-9 pm 2 - Washington 9 - Goldsboro 25 - Wilmington 29 - Andrews Murphy 30 - Asheville 31 - Hickory	6 - Winston-Salem Safety Seminar, 6:30-9 pm 8 - Winston-Salem AMT Seminar, 6-9 pm 11-17 - Lakeland, FL Sun 'n Fun EAA Fly-In NCDOT Aviation Booth A-26 & A-27 8 - Winston-Salem AMT Seminar, 6-9 pm 13 - Dun Safety Seminar, 6:30-9 pm 24-25 - Greensboro NC Wings Weekend
MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST
4 - Siler City Safety Seminar, 6:30-9 pm 11 - Winston-Salem Safety Seminar, 6:30-9 pm 14-16 - Greensboro AMT & IA Renewal, 8 am-5 pm 18 - Goldsboro AMT Seminar, 6-9 pm 18 - Kinston Safety Seminar, 6:30-9 pm 25 - Reidsville Safety Seminar, 6:30-9 pm 26 - Rocky Mount AMT Seminar, 6-9 pm	5 - Elizabeth City On Landings Pilot Seminars, 8 am-5 pm 10 - Beaufort Safety Seminar, 6:30-9 pm 22 - Greenville AMT Seminar, 6-9 pm 23 - Oxford AMT Seminar, 6-9 pm	13 - Greensboro AMT Seminar, 6-9 pm 20 - Burlington AMT Seminar, 6-9 pm 28-AUG 3 - Oshkosh EAA Fly-In NCDOT Aviation Booth	17 - Winston-Salem AMT Seminar, 6-9 pm 24 - Raleigh AMT Seminar, 6-9 pm
SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
24-26 - Manteo to Wilmington Carolina Coastal Air Tour	16-17 - Goldsboro NC Wings Weekend 20 - Greensboro Safety Seminar with John & Martha King 7-9 pm	12-13 - Waxhaw AMT & IA Renewal, 8 am-5 pm	16 - Kill Devil Hills Man will Never Fly Society International Annual Banquet 17 - Kill Devil Hills 96th anniversary of man's first powered flight Wright Brothers National Memorial

NOTE: ALL DATES AND TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

IF YOU ARE PLANNING AN EVENT THROUGH 2000, WE WOULD LIKE TO KNOW ABOUT IT FOR FUTURE CALENDARS.

CALL THE NCDOT DIVISION OF AVIATION AT (919) 840-0112 FOR MORE INFORMATION